

THE SALK INSTITUTE

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Dear Harold,

In response to your letter of April 26 concerning the nomenclature of the retrovirus group, I have the following thoughts. I agree it should not be called AIDS virus. I also think it should not be called HTLV because that designation is historical and does not distinguish between the tumor inciting activity of HTLV 1 and 2 and the depressant activity of the AIDS virus. I would think that the designation should have the human and the T-cell specific concepts and somehow should convey the immunodepressant or cytocidal effect. I would propose something like HTIV or HTCIV.

I wish you the best success in this enterprise.

Yours sincerely,



Renato Dulbecco, M.D.

RD/bml